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Authority: EO 13526
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Date: Oct 17, 2018

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SUBJ: THIS IS (b)(3):10 USC 424

1. (U) COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)

2. (U) REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424

3. (U) TITLE: ARGENTINE MILITARY HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

4. (U) PROJECT NUMBER: N/A

5. (U) DATE OF INFORMATION: 790223

6. (U) DATE OF REPORT: 790306

7. (U) DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 790223, BUENOS AIRES

8. (U) REFERENCES: (b)(3):10 USC 424

9. (U) ASSESSMENT: (b)(3):10 USC 424

10. (U) ORIGINATOR: (b)(3):10 USC 424

11. (U) REQUEST EVALUATION: NO

12. (U) PREPARING OFFICER: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

13. (U) APPROVING AUTHORITY

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

14. (U) SOURCE:

15. (U) SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: ~~DISC NO NOFORN TO AVOID~~

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~~EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVERNMENT~~

16. (U) THIS IR SUPPLEMENTS (b)(3):10 USC 424 PARA 22-4, WHICH COMENTS ON DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN VADM GORDON SCHULLER, OSD-ISA, AND VARIOUS ARGENTINE OFFICERS.

22. ~~(S/NOFORN)~~ DETAILS: VADM SCHULLER WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE SECRETARY GENERAL, BRIGADIER BASILIO LAMI DOZO, ON THE MORNING OF 790223. SINCE LAMI DOZO WAS ON LEAVE, THE ADMIRAL WAS RECEIVED BY COMODORO COTELO OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT. AFTER FIVE MINUTES OF EXCHANGING PLEASANTRIES, THE ADMIRAL WAS INFORMED THAT THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF, BRIGADIER MAYOR ROBERTO TEMPORINI, WOULD LIKE TO SEE HIM IN HIS OFFICE. THE MEETING WITH BRIG. TEMPORINI WAS TOTALLY UNEXPECTED, BUT RESULTED IN A VERY CORDIAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. ADMIRAL SCHULLER INFORMED BRIG. TEMPORINI THAT HE HAD NOT COME TO ARGENTINA WITH ANY SPECIFIC MESSAGE OR FIXED PLAN, BUT RATHER TO SOLICIT THE VIEWS OF THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT ON THE STATUS OF U.S.-ARGENTINE RELATIONS AND HOW THEY FELT IT WAS POSSIBLE TO IMPROVE THEM. THE ADMIRAL NOTED, AT THE SAME TIME, THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MAINTAINS ITS DEDICATION TO HUMAN RIGHTS ADVANCES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD BUT WAS ANXIOUS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH ITS ALLIES WHERE POSITIVE HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS WERE TAKING PLACE. SUCH POSITIVE ACTIONS WERE EVIDENT, HE STRESSED, IN ARGENTINA, BUT HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS LIKE TO ASCERTAIN, IF POSSIBLE, A CONCRETE PICTURE OF WHAT POLICIES THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WILL FOLLOW IN THE NEAR FUTURE THAT MIGHT IMPROVE ITS HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. BRIG. TEMPORINI RESPONDED THAT ARGENTINA ALSO WAS DESIROUS OF MAINTAINING CLOSER RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND WAS WORKING HARD TO RETURN TO NORMALCY AFTER THE EXCESSES OF RECENT YEARS. HE AGREED THAT MUCH PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN RESTORING HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS AND RETURNING TO THE RULE OF LAW, AND THAT THE MILITARY JUNTA WAS DEDICATED TO THIS EFFORT. HE ASSURED ADMIRAL SCHULLER, IN FACT, THAT IN THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS THERE WOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE IMPROVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS IF PLANS WENT ACCORDING TO SCHEDULE. THE TWO OFFICERS THEN EXCHANGED MEMENTOS AND THANKED EACH OTHER FOR THE PLEASANT VISIT. THE CONVERSATION LASTED APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MINUTES.

COMMENT: ~~(S/NOFORN)~~ BRIG. TEMPORINI WAS FORMERLY THE AIR ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON AND HAD MET VADM SCHULLER WHILE SERVING THERE. THE CONVERSATION DESCRIBED ABOVE WAS HELD IN ENGLISH, WHICH BRIG. TEMPORINI SPEAKS VERY WELL. BOTH MEN WERE RELAXED AND CORDIAL, JOKED OCCASIONALLY, AND DISCUSSED THE ISSUES IN A LOGICAL, FORTHRIGHT MANNER. THERE IS CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM, (b)(3):10 USC 424 FOR

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TWO REASONS: ONE, THAT BRIG. TEMPORINI DECIDED TO ELEVATE THE ADMIRAL'S AIR FORCE VISIT TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF LEVEL AND, TWO, THAT HE PREDICTED SUCH A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. IN ADDITION, THESE FACTORS REINFORCE THE OFTEN REPORTED OBSERVATION THAT THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE IS LINKED STRONGLY TO THE U.S. AND SINCERELY WANTS TO RENEW ITS TRADITIONALLY STRONG BONDS. THIS IS NOT TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WILL TOLERATE BEING TREATED UNFAIRLY, AS THEIR RECENT RE-ORIENTATION TOWARD EUROPE FOR ARMS PURCHASES CLEARLY INDICATES. THE CORDIAL TREATMENT OF VADM SCHULLER BY BRIG TEMPORINI

PROBABLY REFLECTED A HOPE THAT, IF THERE WERE MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION, CHANGES WOULD BE FORTHCOMING IN U.S. POLICY TOWARDS ARGENTINA. WHICH TURNS OUT NOT TO BE THE CASE, IF WEAPONS PURCHASES, SPARE PARTS PROVISIONS, AND TRAINING COURSE AVAILABILITY, FOR EXAMPLE, CONTINUE TO BE RESTRICTED, FUTURE U.S. FLAG RANK VISITORS WILL NOT BE RECEIVED SO CORDIALLY.

EMBASSY COORDINATED. ~~DELL/REVW 6 MARCH 1988~~

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